

R E V I E W.

Saturday, February 28. 1713.

Was presented this very Day, by the Publisher, with my old *Scots Highlander's* new Visions for this Year coming, 1713. I thought at first he might have been sent to me, to have shewn me something foreseen in *Scotland*, about Noblemen in *England* turning Pamphleteers, and old Statesmen speaking unintelligibly, by way of *Ænigma*: I fancied he might have discover'd, by his second sight, something in the Air, or Aspects that might dismember Heads of the second Magnitude; some Exhalations that might affect the Brains of Men of high Rank, to perplex them with odd Ideas, make them act Retrograde, talk Delirious, turn Wayward, Froward, and Peevish, and expose the Reputation of their Senses, &c. The reason why I expected these things, was, because I found such Phænomena appearing in our Horizon. But I was mistaken; my *Highlander* did not a Word about the Matter, perhaps it was not significant enough to be revealed to him.

But I was strangely surpriz'd when I read this new Prophetick Scots Man, upon the coming Year, in the following particular Case: You cannot forget how the first thing this new Prophet made himself known by formerly, was, by his foretelling the death of the *Dauphin of France* four Months before it happened: You will be equally surprised with me now, when I shall tell you, That he has now as exactly foretold the death of the King of *Prussia*; who, this very last Post says, dy'd at *Berlin* the He has told some very strange things besides; some which are actually come to pass, and some which are likely to do so.

In his third Prophesy, or Vision for this Year, which is suppos'd to be for *February* and *March*, he has these Words:

The Sun in its rising with bright Clouds, gave leave to the fierce penetrating Sight, to see written in its Centre, the Fate of Nations, in Characters of enamell'd Spots, Chain-like; forming Letters unintelligible, but to the Power of revers'd Opticks. Then he adds, *Here the Vision reads, a CROWN'D HEAD giving up ITS LIFE.* p. 9.

What can this be! The King of *Prussia* is dead, and who but this Person could, in our Age, foresee

this? I shall give you no present Observations upon him, but what seems to be in view, or is actually come to pass.

First, he says, p. 8. ' The further part of these Appearances assures me, That the Strife of People among themselves abate not in this Nation, and the Vision portends Blood, *Lord grant be may be wrong there!* and much Confusion in the end of things, but not yet.

' Tempests shall about *February* terrify these Parts, and Merchants suffer much Loss.

The last we have experienc'd for this Fortnight past; but this they say may be guess'd at — But who could guess that the *Dauphin of France* should die, I can't tell? Or who could tell us now that the King of *Prussia* should die, I know not; nor can any body suggest that the Book was wrote since, for it has been publish'd already above a Month ago, the I never had one till upon this Occasion.

I shall enter no farther upon it here, but if what he says besides this be true, as to the Affairs of Europe, and especially to the PEACE, he must be a strange Man, and this Consequence may be drawn from it in short, (*wiz.*) It is the greatest Folly in the World for People to rage at one another, and at the Instruments of publick Transactions on one side, and on the other. He that could reveal what happens before it came to pass, certainly determined what should be, and it is in vain to set your selves against it.

But to leave our Prophecy to further Observations, as Events may require, I return to our Case: As to the Divisions and Distractions of the Day, it is in vain to attempt to calm the Spirits of Men, whose Rage carries them up to Madness; and who resolve to frustrate all the Endeavours, which the Persons they do not like, shall make use of to reconcile them: But for the Satisfaction and Quiet of those, especially Dissenters, who desire to sit down Calmly, and concern themselves no farther in the mad Extreams of the Age on either side; *I cannot for the satisfaction of these, I say*, but put them in mind of a very parallel Case, which I shall draw from an undisputable Authority in the Sum of the Story you will find in the 29th Chapter of *Jeremiah*; *The Case was thus:*

The

The Children of *Israel* were Conquer'd by the King of *Babylon*, and after the finishing that War, by the destruction of the City and the Temple, the poor disconsolate Inhabitants, betray'd by their own Leaders, and oppress'd by their Enemies, were carried away into Captivity to the City of *Babylon*: And they write a Letter to the Prophet *Jeremiah* to know from him how they should behave themselves there: It seems that some had put Notions into their Heads that they should never submit voluntarily to the new Government they were under, but should take all possible Advantages, and wait for an opportunity to Overthrow, Destroy, and Subvert the *Babylonish Government*, and that God would Inspire them to do it. We shall see his Answer presently, let us make the Parallel a little first.

Here is a body of Dissenters in *England*, they have been oppress'd by High Church, betray'd by Low Church; insulted by the Tories, bought and sold, or which is worse, barter'd for a Mithroom, a Trifle, by the Whigs; they are in short given up into Captivity. My Ld. to whom they were last sold, for they have been given up by the Low Men twice before; Insults them, and boasts, That he has them fast, that the Tories have them fast in their voracious Clutches. Now the Men who have betray'd them are still wheedling them in the Head with Notions and Politicks, and embarrassing them with the Government they live under: What must these People do? See the Word of the Lord by the Prophet *Jeremiah*, to the enquiring Jews, who were at that time the Dissenters in *Babylon*, and who the Politicians were endeavouring to bring into their Measures, which would most apparently have ruin'd them all. I'll quote it you at large, I am perswaded it may give Ease to the troubled Minds of a great many good People at this time; You have it in the 29th of *Jeremiah*, v. 1. 4th. and on to the 10th.

Ver. 4. *Thus saith the Lord of Hosts the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away Captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon;*

5. *Build ye Houses and dwell in them, and Plant Gardens, and eat the Fruit of them.*

6. *Take ye Wives, and beget Sons and Daughters, and take Wives for your Sons, and give your Daughters to Husbands, that they may bear Sons and Daughters, that ye may be increased there and not diminished.*

7. *And seek the Peace of the City, whither I have caused you to be carried away Captives, and pray unto the Lord for it: for in the Peace thereof shall ye have Peace.*

8. *For thus saith the Lord of Hosts the God of Israel, let not your Prophets, and your Diviners that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your Dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.*

9. *For they Prophecy falsely unto you in my Name, have not sent them, saith the Lord.*

I know this will be mightily objected against some People, as if I would divide you from Friends, and abate your vigorous Opposition of Management of the present Affairs; I know not: you are afraid should be divided, but this I know: That the Dissenters are trampled under Foot on both sides; and it is hard to say, which side soever comes up, what Usage they shall have; I think they have nothing to do but to be quiet, and submit to the Providence of God, and wait the time when he will deliver them his own way; and in the mean time pray for the Peace of the Government they are under, and take care of their own Interest, that their Numbers be not diminished.

As to Politick Interests, one side insults them, other side betrays them. Religion and Liberty equally in Danger by the present Broils; I can think nothing better to advise honest Men to, who are of a quiet Disposition, than what the Prophet advised the poor Captive Jews to, (viz.) to be quiet, and to depend upon the Promises of God for Deliverance from both the Parties, for I see neither of them entitled to any thing but to oppress them.

Why, says an angry Man! What would you have? Are not the Dissenters ease on both sides, and they not their Liberty given them by the Toleration? Were not the Whigs always their Friends?

My Answer shall be fuller in its Time; but lay down a Truth, which no Man shall be able to Confute, because Matter of Fact will always decide it.

The *High Church* always, when they could, presid'd and Persecuted.

The *Low Church* always, when they wanted a Master to be serv'd, Sold and Betray'd them.

That they are Bought and Sold this last time, Ld. 's late Book fairly owns; and that the Low Church has made a SIGNAL ATTESTMENT to the Tories, by selling the Dissenters to them. How they may expect to be used, if that able Person ever comes to be a Minister of State again, if they do not know, I DO.

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